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# Inside the news—briefly

## CIA erred on Soviet oil projection

Washington

The Senate Intelligence Committee said Sunday the Central Intelligence Agency did not manipulate a study of Soviet oil production to promote President Carter's energy plan.

But, the committee said the agency erred when it released some pessimistic world oil production projections last year by saying flatly that the Soviet Union would go from being self sufficient to being a big oil importer by 1985.

CIA analysts told the committee staff that the agency made an unexplained "and a simple error" in saying without qualification that Russia would be importing 3.5 million to 4.5 million barrels of oil a day by then. The projection became an issue when the CIA estimates were used by President Carter in public announcements backing his energy policy.

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